LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



FEBRUARY 17, 2022

James A. Garfield Month in Lake County, Ohio

WHEREAS, James A. Garfield was born in Orange, Ohio in 1831 and made Ohio his home for all but his college years. He and his wife Lucretia purchased their farm, what is now named Lawnfield in 1876 while he served in the House of Representatives. They raised their five children on this working farm where they put their boys to work teaching them farming; and

WHEREAS, he soon began to expand the original one and a half-story frame house on the Mentor property to accommodate his large family. Between 1877 and 1880, he and his wife, Lucretia, enlarged their home from nine rooms to twenty, added a porch across the front, and refurnished the interior; and

WHEREAS, at the Republican Convention in June 1880, James A. Garfield won the nomination for the presidency as a "dark horse" candidate. He conducted much of his successful and precedent-setting campaign from his famous front-porch. He converted a small building formerly used as his personal library into his campaign headquarters and equipped it with a temporary telegraph to send and receive messages, including the results of the election; and

WHEREAS, in November of 1880, James A. Garfield became the 20th President of the United States.

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners in and for Lake County hereby proclaims

The month of February, 2022 as James A. Garfield Month in Lake County, Ohio

JOHN R. HAMERCHECK, PRESIDENT

JOHN PLECNIK, VICE PRESIDENT

RON YOUNG, COMMISSIONER